

REMARKS

Claims 24-26, 28, 32, 34, 35, 37, and 41 are currently being amended to obviate the Examiner's indefinite rejection and objections thereto outlined in the currently pending Office Action.

The amendments provided herein do not introduce new matter within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §132. Accordingly, entry of the amendments by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

1. Priority Document

Applicant kindly thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim for priority to EP 03104913.3 filed December 22, 2003, as well as Applicant's benefit claim to U.S. provisional application 60/532,331, filed December 22, 2003. As requested by the Examiner, Applicant is submitting herewith this response a certified copy of European Patent Application No. 03104913.3, which was filed on December 22, 2003, and which is relied upon for priority.

2. Rejection of Claims 28-30 Under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd Paragraph

Applicant has amended claim 28 to obviate the instant rejection, while claims 29 and 30 are dependent thereon. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the current rejection to be withdrawn.

3. Objections to Claims 24-26, 28, 32, 34, 35, 37, and 41

Applicant has amended claims 24-26, 28, 32, 34, 35, 37, and 41 to obviate the Examiner's objections thereto as outlined on page 3, line 1, to page 4, line 8 in the currently pending Office Action. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the current objections to be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Based upon the above remarks, the presently claimed subject matter is believed to be novel and patentably distinguishable over the prior art of record. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw all objections and rejections, and allow all pending claims 24-30, 32-35, 37, 39, and 41. Favorable action with an early allowance of the claims pending in this application is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is welcomed to telephone the undersigned practitioner if he has any questions or comments.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 20, 2009.

Jamie Z
Signature

March 20, 2009
Date